

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C., MAY 26, 1933.

ninth

The ~~sixth~~ meeting of the commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1933 was held in its office in the Interior Department Building on Friday, May 26, 1933. The following members were present:

Mr. Moore, Chairman,
Mr. Swartwout,
Mr. Clarke,
Mr. Lawrie,
Mr. Savage,
also Mr. H. P. Caemmerer,

Executive Secretary and Administrative Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS: The Minutes of the meetings held April 21, and May 6, 1933, were approved.
2. MEMORIAL FOR CULPEPER, VIRGINIA: Mr. Moore brought to the attention of the Commission a design for a monument to be erected at Culpeper, Virginia, by an Association of that town, to commemorate the Minute Men of the Revolution from Culpeper. Mr. Moore said the Association has \$900 and that in his opinion a Revolutionary monument as ~~xxx~~ is located at the site of the surrender of Yorktown would be appropriate; that the J. F. Manning Co. of this city has undertaken to prepare the design and furnish the monument.

The design was brought to the particular attention of Mr. Lawrie, who said the shaft looked more like a cemetery monument. Mr. Lawrie thereupon drew a sketch of an obelisk, which Mr. Moore said he would bring to the attention of the J. F. Manning Company as the basis for a monument, (Exhibit A).

3. RESOLUTION PERTAINING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF MUSEUMS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL: Under date of May 9, 1933, Mr. H. W. Peaslee, Vice Chairman of the Bicentennial Conference Committee, requested the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts as to

a Resolution (Exhibit B) relating to the development of Museums in the National Capital.

The Resolution was carefully considered by the Commission. Mr. Moore said the Smithsonian Institution has taken care of the Museum situation in Washington. They have the National Museum, the National Gallery of Art and the Historical Museum; plans for the extension of the National Museum have been approved by this Commission; also they are trying to acquire the site heretofore proposed for the George Washington Memorial building for a historical museum, and the land south of the Smithsonian Institution has been designated for Museum buildings. Then it is proposed to build a National Gallery of Art adjacent to the National Museum. There is also the National Association of Museums, which is represented here in the National Capital. Therefore, Mr. Moore said, he felt that to endorse the appointment of a new Commission to make an investigation as proposed by the Resolution would complicate things very much. The other members of the Commission fully concurred with Mr. Moore in this matter, and a report was sent to Mr. Peaslee accordingly. (Exhibit C).

4. **L'ENFANT AND ELLICOTT SQUARES:** Under date of May 1, 1933, Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d, Executive and Disbursing Officer of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, requested the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts as to a suggestion to commemorate L'Enfant and Ellicott, as follows:

"At its meeting on April 21, 1933, the National Capital Park and Planning Commission considered a proposal presented by the Director of Planning to name the cross axis of the Mall after the two original planners of the City of Washington, designating the area between 7th and 9th Streets, Constitution Avenue and the North Mall Road for L'Enfant, and the corresponding area south of the South Mall Road for Ellicott.

This suggestion appealed to the Commission as a most suitable method of attaching these significant names to one of the important features of L'Enfant's Plan directly associated with the Mall. The

Commission therefore voted to recommend the designation of these areas as "L'Enfant Square" and "Ellicott Square", and asked me to secure the recommendation of the Fine Arts Commission in each case."

The Commission considered the matter and decided that in their opinion L'Enfant and Ellicott are not on par as designers of the plan for the National Capital. It was pointed out that the original design was made by Major L'Enfant and that while this was somewhat redrawn and enlarged by Andrew Ellicott, no vital change was made in it by him.

The Commission suggested that the cross axis of the Mall between Seventh and Ninth Streets be designated as a site for a suitable memorial to Major L'Enfant; and that some outlying location could very properly be designated to commemorate Ellicott. Col. Grant was so informed (Exhibit D).

5. THE RIGID FRAME BRIDGE: The secretary brought to the attention of the Commission a book presented by Mr. Clarke for the library, entitled The Rigid Frame Bridge by Arthur G. Hayden. On behalf of the Commission, Mr. Moore accepted the book with thanks. It is to be used in connection with the design for the bridge to connect the Agricultural Department buildings.

6. LEE HIGHWAY CONNECTION: Mr. Moore brought to the attention of the Commission a plan received from the National Capital Park and Planning Commission showing the proposed Lee Highway connection from Station 107 at the west side of Arlington Cemetery, extending from there around the south side of the cemetery, and then connecting with the Arlington Memorial Bridge. It was noted that for the present a temporary connection is to be made with the roadway along the east side of Arlington Cemetery. The Commission regretted this, as also a scheme to cross the Arlington Farms area diagonally to connect with the Arlington Memorial Bridge. Attention was called to the plan made by Mr. Greenleaf for Greater Arlington showing a roadway along the channel, instead of the

diagonal road. There will also be a roadway from the southeast corner of Arlington Cemetery to connect with the Highway Bridge.

7. THOMAS CIRCLE. Under date of May 16, 1953, Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d, Executive and Disbursing Officer of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, submitted a letter (Exhibit D) with plan for altering Thomas Circle, so as to be an oval and permit street car tracks to extend through the central plaza. The plan was brought to the attention of Mr. Clarke, who reported as follows:

"I have been studying the report and plan regarding certain contemplated changes to Thomas Circle. I feel now, without having a full knowledge of traffic problems at this point, that it would establish a dangerous precedent to destroy the integrity of one of the park traffic circles in Washington. Even though a change is desirable, I feel that something better than what has been planned is possible. The alignment of the curbs is not pleasing, and the result would, in my opinion, not be an improvement in present conditions in so far as the appearance of the circle is concerned. Unless the appearance is improved, or at least not made less pleasing than at present, then I am not in favor of a change. The street car will not be with us much longer; it will be replaced by the bus before many years pass, and the change should not be made to accommodate it. Traffic, of course, is an important consideration in Washington, but not if it means a sacrifice of the amenities which have made the Capital the most notably beautiful city in the United States."

Mr. Clarke said that this morning he spent 3/4 of an hour at Thomas Circle watching traffic there, and he was convinced that the plan presented did not adequately solve the traffic problem at the circle. Mr. Moore said he felt it was not a good plan and in addition to that it would create a very bad precedent to cut up a circle, which is one of the great features of the L'Enfant Plan, simply for traffic reasons; that no circle in the city can cope with the traffic situation between 8 and 9 a.m. or between 5 and 6 p.m.; also an expense is involved which is not justified in changing the circle into an oval as is proposed.

The secretary stated that he had received several strong protests by

telephone from citizens residing adjacent to Thomas Circle against any change in it.

Mr. Clarke pointed to several very unsatisfactory features in the plan----the alignment of the curbs is bad. To construct islands as shown in the plan would be very bad from a pedestrian standpoint; and the plaza left for the Thomas equestrian statue, after allowing space for street car tracks close by it, would be inadequate for the statue. Mr. Clarke also emphasized the fact that the expense involved would not justify the changes proposed in the circle.

The Commission discussed the matter with Col. Grant later in the day, going over these various features. Col. Grant said he was personally not in favor of altering the circle as proposed; that the plan had been prepared by the Coordinating Committee of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and he was submitting it simply for the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts before the matter got too far along. Col. Grant concurred in the view of the Commission, namely that the cost involved would not justify making the changes in the circle as proposed.

Major Clarke said he had written to Prof. Hubbard of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission about the matter, asking him for his views as to the project, and that he would like to have a final report from the Commission of Fine Arts held in abeyance pending a reply from Prof. Hubbard. The Commission concurred in this.

Report disapproving plan sent June 19, 1953, Exhibit F

8. MEMORIAL ENTRANCE TO ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY: The Commission took note of a letter received from Col. Grant, dated May 13, 1933, in explanation of the work done in paving the plaza of the Memorial Entrance to Arlington National Cemetery (Exhibit G).

9. GASOLINE SERVICE STATION, NEW JERSEY AVENUE & D STREET, N.W.: The secretary submitted a design received from Mr. Watz Weller, Real Estate Agent, 334 Standard Oil Company Building, of this city, for a Gasoline Service Station to be built at New Jersey Avenue and D Street, N.W., which is adjacent to the area covered by the Shipstead-Luce Act. According to the design, it was proposed to build a small stucco office building. The design was not considered particularly good but seemed passable. Later in the day the Commission visited the site, whereupon the matter was further considered. The Commission noted the prominence of the corner on which it was proposed to build and decided that a more substantial building should be erected there, like a brick building across the street or a stone building across New Jersey Avenue. The Commission also advised that no tree shall be torn down in constructing the driveway. A revised design embodying these recommendations is to be submitted (Exhibit H).

(A revised design was submitted by Mr. Weller on June 6th, for a limestone building, which in behalf of the Commission was approved by the Chairman, Exhibit H-1).

10. WOODROW WILSON HIGH SCHOOL: Major Gotwals, Engineer Commissioner of the District of Columbia, submitted a revised design for the Woodrow Wilson High School and a small scale model (32 feet to the inch) showing the layout proposed for the building. Major P. W. Hodgson, Assistant Engineer Commissioner, in company with Mr. Harold W. Baker, of the Supervising Architect's Office, and Mr. Edward W. Donn, Prof. F. V. Murphy, and Mr. Nathan C. Wyeth, architectural

consultants, considered the design and model with the Commission.

The Commission felt that the model brought out features with reference to the buildings in relation to the topography that helped considerably in solution of the problem. Mr. Swartwout and Mr. Clarke said the scheme in general as presented by the model seemed satisfactory and the other members of the Commission thought likewise. It showed the buildings facing the city and the Athletic Field, having a 1/5 mile running track, immediately in the foreground. The Powerhouse with smokestack was shown to be near the auditorium not far from Nebraska Avenue. Mr. Eliot, Director of Planning of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, protested strongly against the Powerplant in this location and said he preferred to have it adjacent to Chesapeake Street. Mr. Clarke said in his opinion the location as proposed in the model is satisfactory but that the chimney should be placed right next to the building. This would diminish the height of the smokestack, which will be 125 feet high--40 feet projecting over the roof of the auditorium. Mr. Eliot said also he considered the arrangement of the buildings a wasteful use of land. The Commission decidedly disagreed with Mr. Eliot as to this, saying whatever ground is left after the three buildings, the Powerhouse and the Athletic Field have been built, would simply be enough to give the buildings a good setting with some lawn and trees.

Mr. Moore suggested that a clock-tower be built on top of the main building to pull the buildings together and help offset the objectionable smokestack. Mr. Donn said in behalf of the architectural consultants that it is impracticable to place the smokestack in the main building or lower it as on the Federal Power Plant, as the smokestack must be high enough to give the necessary combustion and clearance sufficiently high for gases to escape

without ruining vegetation in the immediate vicinity.

The design showing a slanting roof was preferred by the Commission to a flat roof. The Commission will give further study to the corridors connecting the buildings. No scenery loft will be built in the auditorium.

Mr. Eliot raised the point that the auditorium should be adjacent to the Fort Drive and Chesapeake Street, instead of near Nebraska Avenue as shown in the model, since he said it would be used oftener than the gymnasium. Major Hodgson said, however, experience has shown that the gymnasium is used equally as much as the auditorium during the week after school hours. The Commission decided to leave this matter with the District Commissioners for final determination.

The Commission recommended that a five foot terrace wall be built along Nebraska Avenue, with a walk inside the wall for a promenade, like so many of the walks of Rome, giving a view over the city. Mr. Clarke urged that a topographic map be prepared at once showing the location and size of the trees in this area. Later in the day the Commission visited the grounds again, and stressed the importance of having the topographic map made without delay.

A report embodying the recommendations of the Commission was sent to Major Gotwals (Exhibit I).

11. AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION BUILDING: Under date of May 10, 1933, Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d, Executive and Disbursing Officer of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, submitted a landscape plan for the grounds of the American Pharmaceutical Association Building, with letter as follows:

"At the last meeting of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, plans were submitted by Mr. Otto Eggers for the grounds of the Pharmaceutical Building as recommended by Mr. Brinckerhoff. After

Careful examination of these plans, the Commission passed the following vote:

"VOTED: (a) That the Commission refer the planting and grading plans for the grounds of the Pharmaceutical Building, submitted under date of April 19, 1933, to the National Commission of Fine Arts, and

(b) That subject to the recommendation of Mr. Hubbard, the Commission approves the planting and grading plans after detailed checking of sidewalk and street grades by the District and Park authorities, as a basis for the plan mentioned in the Act of Congress approved May 13, 1932.

(c) That the Commission approve the transfer of lands between the Pharmaceutical Association and the Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks, as contemplated in the Act of Congress of May 13, 1932, in accordance with plan No. 1,8-125.

(d) That the Commission recommend to the Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks an agreement concerning the grounds of the Pharmaceutical Association similar to that covering the grounds of the Academy of Science based on plans to be approved by the Commission of Fine Arts, and permitting the Association to construct approaches and plant on the park property in exchange for the assumption by the Association of full responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of the grounds covered in the agreement."

Since this vote was taken we have received the enclosed letter from Mr. Henry V. Hubbard approving the plans and the grades have been checked as provided in paragraph (b) of the vote.

I am now submitting photostats of these plans for the action by your Commission as required by law.

In order to proceed with the action required under the Act for the closing of Water Street, we have also prepared the attached plan showing areas proposed for exchange between the Park Office and the Association as well as a draft permit which is almost identical with that covering the grounds of the American Academy of Science. I would appreciate your early consideration of these plans and proposals so that we may complete the negotiations with the Pharmaceutical Association at the earliest possible date."

A copy of the planting and grading plans had been sent to Major Clarke, who approved them as preliminary plans. He suggested planting large trees behind the building (possibly white pine) which ultimately would screen out any structures that are erected to the north in the future. On his recommendation the Commission approved these plans accordingly.

Dr. H. A. B. Dunning, Chairman of the Building Committee, and Dr. E. F. Kelly, Secretary of the American Pharmaceutical Association, were present and protested against the small amount of land that the National Capital Park and Planning Commission proposes to give the Association, in exchange for land along 23d Street which they were giving to the Government. They protested particularly because by the transfer of land as proposed they would be without a permanent entrance on the south side of their building from 22d or 23d Streets. The draft of agreement, which accompanied Col. Grant's letter was considered by the Commission. Mr. Moore said he thought the Association should be given more land, and recommended that the entire bed of Upper Water Street, between 22d and 23d Streets, or an equivalent amount of land on the south side of their building, be given to the Association in fee simple, in exchange for the land they are giving on the 23d Street side to the Government for the purpose of widening that street. The Commission concurred with Mr. Moore in this matter. Dr. Dunning and Dr. Kelly said that this would satisfy the Association. Dr. Dunning then related the great obstacles the Association has had to overcome in meeting the requests of the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission both in the matter of type of building and the amount of ground to be provided to give the building a good setting adjacent to the Lincoln Memorial. He said it has cost the Association more than \$175,000 than was originally anticipated and several years delay.

Col. Grant, who was present, said personally he wanted to see the Association given a square deal, but he felt that according to the data he thus far has at hand he felt he could not justify giving over all the land desired by the Association. Dr. Dunning and Dr. Kelly were thereupon requested to file a letter with the Commission of Fine Arts setting forth fully their claims

with respect to the amount of land they desire. This Dr. Kelly did in behalf of the Association (Exhibit J). It was understood that, as the landscape plan indicated, the Reservation on the south side of the American Pharmaceutical Association Building, extending to Constitution Avenue, which would remain after deeding over land to the Association, would be held by the Association under a revokable permit, on condition that they keep up the grounds, the same as the National Academy of Sciences, adjacent to them.

A report was sent to Col. Grant (Exhibit K).

12. BRIDGES TO CONNECT AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT BUILDINGS: Mr. Louis A. Simon, of the Supervising Architect's Office, submitted in behalf of Hon. N.W. Robert, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, revised sketches for the bridges over B Street South to connect the Agricultural Department Buildings. Eight different sketches had been made to illustrate the treatment suggested by the Commission of Fine Arts of having a lighter bridge and one with an out-of-door walk to connect the two buildings. The sketches also provided for a more substantial structural treatment of the ends of the bridge.

Mr. Swartwout felt that a great improvement had been made over previous designs submitted and the other members of the Commission concurred with him in this matter. The Commission after consideration selected sketch No. 1, illustrating a single span for the lower portion of the bridge, and sketches No. 3 and No. 4 for the upper part, as the basis for a new design. A report was sent to Assistant Secretary Robert accordingly (Exhibit L).

13. NEW CORNICE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE: Col. Grant reported that the cornice on the White House is deteriorating; that recently a large piece fell down at the south porch of the White House, and it is becoming dangerous to walk around it. He said that while repairing the White House a few years ago,

in 1927, they found parts of the cornice crumbling and while they then repaired portions of the cornice, now it seems it needs general overhauling. The old cornice is of Aquia Creek sandstone and has been there since 1814, when the White House was rebuilt after being burned.

Mr. Donn said that when McKim, Mead and White restored the White House in 1901 they used brown sandstone from Hummelstown, Pa., a stone lacking in stratification. Col. Grant suggested that Indiana Limestone be used in repairing the cornice, which would be painted white to harmonize with other portions of the building. The Commission concurred in this (Exhibit K).

14. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOUNDARY MARKERS: Col. Grant requested the advice of the Commission as to placing markers, which are being erected by the Garden Club of America, at Chevy Chase Circle. He said there is difficulty in placing them symmetrically with the fountain at the Circle.

The matter was held in abeyance until the Commission visited the location in the afternoon, when a site for the markers was selected immediately at the right and left of Connecticut Avenue at the turn into the Circle on the Maryland side.

15. IMPROVING DUPONT CIRCLE: Col. Grant said he had difficulty in carrying out the recommendation of the Commission as to the use of octagonal asphalt blocks for the sidewalks in Dupont Circle. He said these will require a concrete base and will cost more than the amount of money he has available to rebuild the sidewalks; but that his office has facilities for putting in concrete walks without difficulty.

The Commission felt that concrete walks are too shiny in parks, but Col. Grant said that his office uses lamp black to make the concrete dark; also he said there are many large trees at Dupont Circle which give much shade. The

Commission thereupon interposed no further objection to using concrete in rebuilding these walks.

16. APPRECIATION OF THE SERVICES RENDERED BY COL. GRANT: Col. Grant stated that this was the last time he was appearing before the Commission of Fine Arts to represent his office as Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital and in connection with Arlington Memorial Bridge matters, as he had been assigned back to Army duty. He is to spend a year at the General Staff School at the War College in Washington. Col. Grant said he has always regarded it a great privilege to work in cooperation with the Commission of Fine Arts and to enjoy the fellowship of the Commission, and that while he did not always find it possible to carry out the recommendations of the Commission literally, he had done the best he could during the past seven years, subject to limitations of funds and otherwise, in carrying out the projects of his office.

The Commission expressed to Col. Grant their great regret at his going back to Army duty and said they had always appreciated his cooperation in the work of developing the National Capital. The Commission wished him success in his new sphere of duty. A letter of appreciation was sent to Col. Grant (Exhibit N).

17. CALVERT STREET BRIDGE: The Commission visited the Calvert Street Bridge and took note of its location with reference to the Connecticut Avenue Bridge. The secretary stated that an amendment is in the pending District of Columbia Appropriation Bill for the fiscal year 1934 which calls for further study by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia as to a proper design for a new Calvert Street Bridge, as follows:

"---The sum of \$575,000 is hereby made available for the construction of a bridge to replace the Calvert Street Bridge over Rock Creek including necessary changes in water and sewer mains, and including the employment of engineering or other professional services by contract or otherwise, without reference to section

3709 of the Revised Statutes, (U. S. C., title 41, sec. 5), or the Classification Act of 1925, as amended, and engineering and incidental expenses, and the Commissioners are authorized to enter into contract or contracts for construction of said bridge at a cost not to exceed \$1,250,000; but no part of said sum shall be available for expenditure in connection with the construction of said Calvert Street Bridge until the Commissioners of the District of Columbia shall have made a restudy and reinvestigation to determine which particular type of bridge is most economical and serviceable, and best suited to the proposed location; and the Commission of Fine Arts shall have approved the type of bridge decided upon, and any street railway company using said bridge shall install thereon, at its own expense, an approved underground system of street-car propulsion and, at its own expense, shall thereafter maintain such underground construction and bear the cost of surfacing and resurfacing and maintaining in good condition the space between the railway tracks and two feet exterior thereto as provided by law, and shall defray the cost of excess construction occasioned by such use including the relocation and construction of closed plow pits at the west approach to the bridge in accordance with plans to be approved by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia."

(H.R. 4589, pages 19 and 20)

The secretary said that, as matters stand now, the Commission of Fine Arts approved a design in 1917 for a stone arched bridge by George Oakley Totten, and in 1931 a design for a reinforced concrete bridge of single span, by Paul Cret. ~~(H.R. 4589, pages 19 and 20)~~

18. NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES: The Commission inspected the grounds of the National Academy of Sciences later in the afternoon and were in conference with Mr. Paul Brockett, Assistant Secretary. Mr. Brockett said the Academy is glad to cooperate with the Commission and would carry out such suggestions as the Commission might have to make as to their grounds. The Commission noted that the tall poplar trees had been cut down from in front of the building, much to the improvement of both building and grounds.

Mr. Brockett showed the Commission several of the marvelous scientific instruments on display at the Academy. The Commission also expressed their appreciation of the sculpture by Mr. Lawrie.

19. NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS: The suggestion of the secretary was adopted to hold the next meeting of the Commission early in July.

The Commission adjourned at 6:05 p.m. The Commission had as their guests at luncheon Col. Grant, Mr. Bonn, Dr. Kelly, and Dr. Tanning.

20. INSPECTION TRIP TO WAKEFIELD, YORKTOWN AND WILLIAMSBURG: Under date of May 20, 1933, the Commission received the following letter from Director Horace M. Albright, of the National Park Service:

"Some time when it is convenient for your Commission to do so, I would appreciate their inspecting the work we are doing, including plans for development, on the proposed parkway between and to connect Yorktown, Williamsburg and Jamestown, also including the development and planning work at Yorktown, and giving me the benefit of any criticism or advices that might occur to them individually or collectively."

Accordingly, the Commission arranged to make this trip of inspection on Saturday May 27th. At Wakefield the Commission noted a number of improvements made since the Commission was there a year ago, when the Birthplace of George Washington was dedicated. Congressman Cochran, of Pennsylvania, who accompanied the Commission, was particularly well pleased with it. During the past year, the interior of the George Washington house had been improved upon by adding to the furnishings; the Log House had been built, and residences for the custodian and assistants.

At Yorktown the Commission were in conference with Superintendent Robinson, of the National Park Service, who explained the work done there. Also he accompanied the Commission to Williamsburg, going over as much of the Parkway which is being built from Yorktown to Williamsburg as was possible. The Commission were much impressed with the portion of the Parkway, along the York River, that has been built. Major Clarke offered a few suggestions to the National Park Service on the construction work in a Memorandum (Exhibit C) and a report was made to Mr. Albright (Exhibit C-1).

At Williamsburg the Commission inspected the interesting historical restoration work, which is being done there by Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and were in conference with representatives of the firm of Perry, Shaw and Hepburn, architects, who have charge of the restoration project.

COPY

June 2, 1933.

Dear Sirs:

The enclosed sketch for a monument at Culpeper was made by Mr. Lee Lawrie, sculptor member of the Commission of Fine Arts, at the meeting of the Commission on May 26th. Mr. Moore asked me to send it to you with the request that you make a simple design for the monument, using this sketch as a basis, which he could send to the Association at Culpeper.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) H. P. Ciemmerer,

Secretary.

The J. F. Manning Co., Inc.,
1106 Vermont Avenue,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT A

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTE

ST D. KOHN, PRESIDENT, NEW YORK
ST J. RUSSELL, 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT, ST. LOUIS
GE W. PEASLEE, 2ND VICE-PRESIDENT WASHINGTON



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EDWARD C. KEMPER, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
COMMITTEE on THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

May 9, 1933.

HORACE W. PEASLEE, Chairman
1228 Connecticut Avenue,
Washington, D. C.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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HENRY W. HALL
CHAS. L. THOMPSON
JOHN J. DONOVAN
WM. T. JOHNSON
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ALBERT HARKNESS
CHARLES C. WILSON
F. C. W. KUEHN
BAYARD S. CAIRNS
OTTO H. LANG
CARL A. MULVEY
GEORGE WILLIS
LEWIS T. CANNON
ARTHUR H. SMITH
FINLAY F. FEROUSSON
CARL F. GOULD
JAS. L. MONTGOMERY
H. W. BUENNING
FRANK S. MOULTON
FREDERIC H. PORTER

Dr. Charles Moore,
Chairman, National Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Moore:

In May 1932, the Archeological Institute of America adopted certain resolutions relating to the development of the museums of the National Capital, and through its corresponding secretary requested the adoption of the resolution by the American Institute of Architects. The Architects suggested the broadening of the resolution to cover engineering and scientific as well as archeological and cultural subjects, and the reference of the revised resolutions to other national organizations which might be interested.

It is proposed to send the resolution with an explanatory statement to the eleven professional and civic associations constituting the Bicentennial Conference on the National Capital. It is desired to include with the submission comments of various interested official groups. The resolutions in question are submitted herewith for your general comment and for specific suggestions as to any modifications which might appear to be desirable.

Very truly yours,

Horace W. Peaslee,
Acting Chairman,
Bicentennial Conference Committee.

HWP:KH

RECEIVED
COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
WASHINGTON, D. C.
MAY 10 1933

Whereas, The (name of Society) realizes the importance of the National Capital as a centre of culture and as an international factor in educational affairs, and is deeply interested in the advancement of learning within its chosen field and in the dissemination of knowledge, and

Whereas, The continued growth of collections and objects of art and utility in public and private museums has created a widespread demand for space for exhibits of every description; and

Whereas, Tentative plans for extension of museum facilities and assignment of sites on public property have been made but no comprehensive reports are available. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the judgment of this that a national commission of members, composed of especially qualified persons, should be appointed by the President of the United States, with instructions to study and report upon the museum problems of the city of Washington of whatever nature--artistic, historic, scientific, mechanical, ethnological, etc., etc.; their control, method of housing, relation to the city plan, expansion and development. And be it, further

Resolved, That for the purposes of this and related institutions, foundations and societies, it shall be the duty of the Commission to compare the methods, practices and equipment of modern museums throughout the world for the perfection of a programme of development and management of a museum of architecture, history, of art and archaeology such as shall appear to be best suited to American needs, together with such teaching organization, field service, library, and laboratories as may be practical and desirable; that particular attention shall be given to galleries containing original subjects and reproductions, in whatever medium, or such masterpieces and antiquities as are necessary to the student for comparison and learning; to copies or originals of such architectural subjects, in detail or in whole, as may be useful, and to plans, models, etc., of such sites and buildings as may be deemed advisable; besides metal work, textiles, paintings, carvings and whatever else may be deemed useful to the artist, collector and student. And be it, further,

Resolved, That the President of shall seek the co-operation of such societies and institutions as may be interested in the advancement of the interests herein designated and shall appoint a committee, to promote and serve the purposes of this resolution.

COPY

May 29, 1933.

Dear Mr. Peaslee:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 26, 1933, considered carefully the copy of Resolutions you submitted with your letter of May 9th, relating to the development of museums in the National Capital.

The Commission calls attention to the fact that under its organic act the Smithsonian Institution is organized to promote both science and art; and the Supreme Court has decided that the Institution is legally the National Gallery of Art. Mr. Charles L. Freer recognized that fact when he bequeathed to the Smithsonian his collections of Far Eastern and American art and the administration thereof. There is authority of law for the location of a National Gallery of Art in the Mall; and plans have been approved for extensions of the Natural History Museum building. Other buildings have been tentatively planned and space allotted to them. The Commission of Fine Arts has duties in connection with the Freer Gallery of Art; there is a National Gallery of Art Commission composed of painters, sculptors, architects, museum directors and laymen, created by the Smithsonian Institution.

The whole matter of museum extensions in both scope and area seems to this Commission to be having adequate consideration by constituted authorities. Therefore the appointment of a new commission to study the question of the development of museums in the National Capital would seem superfluous and possibly disturbing to the existing situation.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Mr. H. W. Peaslee, Acting Chairman,
Bicentennial Conference Committee,
1228 Connecticut Avenue,
Washington, D.C.

Exhibit C

COPY

May 31, 1933.

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 26, 1933, considered your letter of May 1st, requesting the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts as to a proposal by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission to name the area between 7th and 9th Streets, Constitution Avenue and the North Mall Road for L'Enfant, and the corresponding area south of the South Mall Road for Ellicott. The Commission of Fine Arts does not favor this suggestion.

When Washington was intrusted with the planning of the National Capital he deliberately selected L'Enfant, whose taste and capabilities he knew to make the plan, and when the plan was made after repeated consultations between the two Washington approved it. That plan has taken its place among the great plans of the world. It was the work of a great artist. While L'Enfant was drawing a plan for the city, Ellicott was surveying the District of Columbia and making a topographical map thereof in which map he placed the L'Enfant Plan. When unfortunate controversies arose between the Commissioners of the District of Columbia and L'Enfant, leading to L'Enfant's resignation, Ellicott prepared a map in which comparatively few changes were made in the L'Enfant Plan and none of these changes were vital or had anything to do with the great conception. Therefore, seemingly to place Ellicott and L'Enfant on a par by naming these two parts of an area, one for each, would seem to recognize the creator and the executor on an equality.

Casually the members of the Commission of Fine Arts have discussed the development of the cross axis from Constitution Avenue to B Street South between Seventh and Ninth Streets as a happy break in the continuity of the Mall. This idea is expressed in the Report of 1901. The Commission thought that quite properly L'Enfant's name might be given to this area, central in his great and distinct remaining feature of combining utility and beauty in his plan. The Commission would be in favor of commemorating the work of Ellicott perhaps in some significant outlying location.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d,
Executive and Disbursing Officer,
National Capital Park and Planning Commission,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT D

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PUBLIC PARKS
OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

REFER TO _____

RECEIVED
COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS.
WASHINGTON, D. C.
MAY 17 1933
NOTED
WASHINGTON, D. C.
May 16, 1933

Mr. Charles Moore, Chairman,
Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Building,
Washington, D. C.

Subject: Alteration of Thomas Circle.

My dear Mr. Moore:

I inclose a plan and explanatory memorandum which have been approved by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission for alterations in Thomas Circle to alleviate the traffic congestion that now exists there. The necessity for some change along these lines was brought to my attention a few years ago by the District Government, and the fact that the street car company is about ready now to repair and improve its tracks has made this seem the opportune time for deciding upon any change that it may be desirable to make.

The plan which I am sending you has been carefully worked out by the Coordinating Committee consisting of representatives of the District Commissioners and of the Park and Planning Commission and is emphatically urged by the said Committee as that most suitable to solve the traffic problem there and at the same time do as little damage as possible to park values. You will see that the car tracks would go through the circle outside of the present decorative trees, and that the inner line of the street, for the 14th Street traffic, would be outside of the present circle with the sidewalk removed.

Knowing the special interest the Commission of Fine Arts has in Thomas Circle, I have felt that I would like to advise you of this plan and get your views before it goes too far. The circle is in bad condition now, because I have known this change was being initiated and have felt it would be a waste of funds, sorely needed for other purposes, to fix it up this year when the whole circle might have to be dug up again. I am certainly not prepared to help this plan without knowing the views of your Commission.

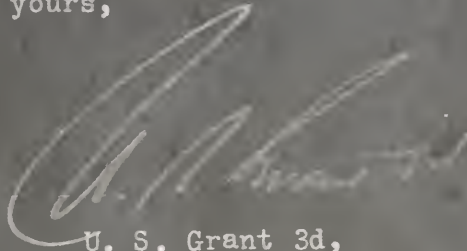
I was very grateful for what you said at lunch yesterday. Your criticisms of some of the recent work of this office and your implication that I had perhaps failed in some cases to cooperate with your Commission made me fear that perhaps, largely through misunderstanding of certain matters, I might have forfeited some of the good opinion I have

Shelton

- 2 -

tried so hard to deserve. Let me assure you that working with you and the Commission of Fine Arts has been one of the outstanding pleasures and privileges of this position.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "U. S. Grant 3d".

U. S. Grant 3d,
Director.

2 Incls.



COPY
THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
Washington, D.C.

June 19, 1933.

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts have given very careful consideration to your letter of May 16, 1933, together with an explanatory memorandum and plan for radical changes in Thomas Circle to alleviate traffic congestion.

It is noted that to a considerable extent, however, this plan "has been predicated on rush-hour needs of traffic, especially the necessity for moving street cars through the intersection with the greatest possible speed and without interference to the vehicular traffic."

The proposition to run street cars and automobiles through Thomas Circle in order to facilitate traffic at rush hours morning and evening has created a critical situation in Washington planning. If Thomas Circle is so treated, the next demand, equally or even more insistent, will be made to destroy Dupont Circle on Connecticut Avenue. Then one by one the other circles will disappear; and so the distinction of Washington among American cities will be ruined.

Thomas Circle takes its name from General George H. Thomas, whose statue adorns its center. This statue, by J. Q. A. Ward, is one of the few notable equestrian statues of America. It commemorates a Civil War general whose fame is time-proof. Facing the circle are the Luther Memorial Church and the Luther statue; also the newly completed Christian Church designed by John Russell Pope in the Sir Christopher Wren tradition, an edifice singularly dignified and beautiful. The Thomas statue and both

THE COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS
WASHINGTON, D.C.

June 19, 1964

Dear Mr. Tolson:

The Commission on Civil Rights has been very active in its work since your letter of May 10, 1964, concerning the Commission's work on racial discrimination in housing. It is to this Commission that you refer in your letter of May 10, 1964, concerning the Commission's work on racial discrimination in housing.

It is noted that to a considerable extent, the Commission has been preoccupied with the problem of racial discrimination in housing. The Commission has been preoccupied with the problem of racial discrimination in housing. The Commission has been preoccupied with the problem of racial discrimination in housing.

The Commission on Civil Rights has been very active in its work since your letter of May 10, 1964, concerning the Commission's work on racial discrimination in housing. It is to this Commission that you refer in your letter of May 10, 1964, concerning the Commission's work on racial discrimination in housing.

The Commission on Civil Rights has been very active in its work since your letter of May 10, 1964, concerning the Commission's work on racial discrimination in housing. It is to this Commission that you refer in your letter of May 10, 1964, concerning the Commission's work on racial discrimination in housing.

Sincerely,
J. Edgar Hoover

churches depend for the effectiveness on maintaining the extent and integrity of Thomas Circle.

Dupont Circle has for its central feature the Dupont Memorial Fountain, of rare beauty, designed by Daniel Chester French and Henry Bacon, and given to Washington by the Dupont family to replace an obsolete portrait statue of Admiral Dupont. The gleaming white fountain situated among great trees is seen through long vistas of arching elms formed by the converging streets. Its beauty and effectiveness should be preserved.

To destroy either of these circles would be to commit an act of vandalism, perpetrated at the expense of the people of the United States. They, literally, own the streets of the old city of Washington. Of what avail is it to spend tens of millions on the adornment of the Nation's Capital with public buildings and parks and at the same time destroy those beauty spots which give charm and significance to Washington as a capital city!

The Commission of Fine Arts respectfully submits that the proposition to dismember the City of Washington by destroying one of its chief beauty spots does not come with good grace in view of the fact that no adequate regulations have been made and enforced to control traffic throughout the business section of the city. This is made plain in the report of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission made after thorough investigation by Professor McClintock in 1930. The recommendations in that report, if carried out, would go far to relieve a general traffic situation in Washington already intolerable and growing worse.

The President's Park south of the White House, the Washington Monument grounds, the driveways to and around the Lincoln Memorial, the entire Mall so far as developed, all are turned into all-day parking places. Each of

character depends for its effectiveness on the character of the agent.

Integrity of the agent.

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the small reservations throughout the city is completely surrounded by parked cars. Almost if not quite alone among cities, Washington allows all night parking. Until drastic measures are taken to restore the thoroughfares of Washington to their purpose as thoroughfares instead of free parking places, it is idle to hope for relief by lopping off sections of circles. Such action only makes a bad situation worse.

The Commission of Fine Arts note the protests from representative Citizens Associations, the congregations of the churches facing Thomas Circle, the Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, and many private citizens, all having at heart the integrity and beauty of a city that is the heritage and the pride of the American people.

The Commission of Fine Arts therefore recommend that Thomas Circle be retained as it is, at least to the sidewalk line, and that certain changes be made in the outer curb lines of the Circle by which the traffic flow will be materially aided. This Commission feel that the changes as shown on the model could not be other than experimental, and even if accomplished, the authorities would immediately desire to go back to the present lay-out.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d,
Executive and Disbursing Officer,
National Capital Park and Planning Commission,
Washington, D.C.

The small representative committee of the old is completely unrepresentative of the new. It is not a committee of the people, but a committee of the few. It is not a committee of the whole, but a committee of the part. It is not a committee of the future, but a committee of the past. It is not a committee of the living, but a committee of the dead. It is not a committee of the people, but a committee of the few. It is not a committee of the whole, but a committee of the part. It is not a committee of the future, but a committee of the past. It is not a committee of the living, but a committee of the dead.

Very respectfully,
(Signed) [Name]
[Address]

West, 301, D. Street, N.E.,
Washington, D.C.
National Student Reliance Committee,
Executive and Legislative Staff,
Washington, D.C.

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE COMMISSION

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE AND DISBURSING OFFICER
NAVY BUILDING
WASHINGTON

RECEIVED
THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
WASHINGTON, D. C.
MAY 16 1933

NOTED

May 15, 1933.

Mr. Charles Moore, Chairman,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department Building,
Washington, D. C.

Subject: Paving of Plaza, Memorial Entrance
to Cemetery.

Dear Mr. Moore:

Thank you for your very candid letter of April 24th, relative to the paving of the Plaza at the Memorial Entrance to the Cemetery. I shall venture to be equally candid in my reply. I am really grateful to you for letting me know what you and Mr. Gilbert think about it, as this gives me an opportunity to explain the situation, which I hope will justify my actions in your opinion.

In the first place, did not the Commission of Fine Arts and Mr. Cass Gilbert in this instance pass judgment on an uncompleted piece of work, and was not its appearance to you necessarily unfavorably colored by the very unkempt and unpleasing appearance of the whole vicinity of the structure in question? This point strikes me at once, because members of my office and I have been repeatedly cautioned by your Commission not to pass judgment on partially completed work. I remember distinctly what a vast difference a few thousand dollars' worth of fine grading and planting made at the Washington end of the Bridge, and so of course, do you. I cannot but feel therefore that, had your visit been postponed until the completion of even such cleaning up and trimming as can be done in the immediate future, the reasons for your objections would have been largely eliminated.

Your observation that the advice of your Commission and of the Architects was "totally disregarded" is not correct; and if in this case, I could not comply in full with such advice, may I not invite your attention to how continuously I have sought your advice on every occasion during the past eight years, even to the extent that I have many times feared I was importuning the Commission with the frequency of my requests, and to the fact that I have then meticulously carried out your suggestions to the

ELH

Mr. Moore - Memorial Entrance to Cemetery.

5/12/33.

fullest extent of my ability. Therefore, if in this case I departed from your advice in some particulars, it was not due to any lack of appreciation of its value.

In my connection with the Arlington Memorial Bridge project, I have consistently acted on one basic principle: To secure the highest quality and integrity of the structure, especially of the unseen parts -- that is, in the engineering design -- so that it would be physically and structurally in keeping with its memorial character and architectural design. To achieve this, it has been necessary that the whole work should meet all demands, utilitarian and practical as well as aesthetic, in a manner worthy of the nobility of the Bridge project as a whole and of the best traditions and experience of our country. To this end, I have had to keep in mind such practical requirements as durability, safety of the public, and reasonable cost of maintenance, as well as the aesthetic values.

In the case of the pavement of the Memorial Avenue and of the Entrance Plaza, the type of pavement was approved by your Commission -- the black surface, as your letter of October 29, 1932, shows, having been suggested only as a possible temporary expedient, erroneously suggested as economical. To have used such an expedient at the Cemetery Entrance would have broken the integrity of the Avenue from the Lincoln Memorial to the Cemetery, and would have introduced an anticlimax where a culmination of feeling seemed essential.

Therefore, the only departures from your recommendation of October 29th have been in the "temporary curbs" and "jointings to guide traffic," and in not carrying out the Architects' blocking arrangement of the construction joints at the Plaza. The obvious and perhaps sufficient justification of these departures from your and the Architects' recommendations is that the contract had been entered into September 23, 1932, while your final recommendation was not written until October 29th, and that such a material modification of the contract could not have been made consistently with the financial policy of the administration and the limited funds available.

However, there were other considerations which also had weight, although they were perhaps less rigid and peremptory. If it had not been for them, the Entrance Plaza might have been left unpaved until a later date when the necessary funds could be found, as you suggest in the next to last paragraph of your letter of April 24, 1933. These I would like to state now, in order that the record may be clear, since I am so soon to be relieved of my

Mr. Moore - Memorial Entrance to Cemetery.

5/12/33.

present duties.

Instead of the arrangement originally suggested by my office, the Architects submitted a checker-board jointing of the Entrance Plaza pavement which did not satisfy the structural requirements of the pavement, and which I felt constrained, and I still think justly so, to disapprove, both for this reason and for the safety and convenience of the public. Failing the approval of their blocking layout, the Architects then suggested that the entire pavement within the Plaza should be a black top from which all evidence of joints would be eliminated. Aside from my personal objections to such a diminution in quality of the pavement at the very point where it should be the best, such a black top would have had to be supported on a concrete base and the whole area of the Plaza could not have been paved at this time in this way without increasing the cost beyond the funds available. To omit the Plaza pavement entirely, as you now suggest, would have left the Bridge indefinitely unusable as the direct and appropriate avenue of access to the Cemetery, and might, in view of the changing attitude towards the whole project, have jeopardized its completion. To have put on a temporary but inadequate surface just because of a difference of opinion as to the arrangement of joints would have been inconsistent with the character of the project and a waste of money in the long run. Accordingly, I decided to go ahead with the contract, outlining the Plaza by setting all of the curb surrounding it, including the semicircular portion at the hemicycle, exactly as designed by the Architects, and the forked part indispensable to the free flow of traffic. The unpaved portions must needs wait until further funds become available.

For the present, these unpaved portions will have to be taken care of as best I can. Ultimately, I count on their being treated exactly like the paved portions. The granite curbs have been set to line and profile so as to permit this final pavement. The low inconspicuous temporary curbs bordering the forked portion within the Plaza, are a necessary safeguard for traffic, which can be removed, if so decided, when the remainder of the paving is placed. The waste will be only a few hundred dollars, if this has to be done, compared with about \$7,000.00, if I had put a temporary pavement on the whole Plaza. To have omitted these curbs would have allowed, or even invited, traffic to wander uncontrolled over the unpaved areas, and this was something which had to be prevented, both for safety and to avoid undue maintenance. I believe the low curbs will do this effectively enough without introducing as unpleasant an appearance as would be caused by traffic running off onto the unpaved surfaces.

Mr. Moore - Memorial Entrance to Cemetery.

5/12/33. .

The joints to which so much exception has been taken were determined not only by the structural requirements, but also with the view of guiding traffic in making the rather sharp turn at the foot of the descending grades leading to the approach from the north and the south. Experience elsewhere confirms my conviction that the joints as laid out will be a material help to all drivers, either approaching or leaving the Cemetery, especially at times when traffic is dense. I respectfully contend these joints are so inconspicuous in the whole picture as not to harm the appearance of the pavement, since they are almost invisible to an observer from the top of the walls, the viewpoint from which the Architects feared they would be objectionable.

At this point, permit me to add that the work not only has been carried out without the undue expense referred to in your letter, but has been done at a price which, considering the results obtained, is considerably more reasonable than might be expected. I am quite content to let the records of my office and the work done speak for themselves as to costs. Indeed, this pavement which was developed by the Bridge Commission's staff under my direction, appears to be a really valuable innovation in paving practice that seems to me successful both in texture and in cost.

The difference in the views of your Commission and myself in this matter seems to be largely due to the fact that I have had to consider very seriously the question of the safe and uninterrupted flow of traffic. While the appearance of this pavement will probably go unnoticed by the great bulk of the people using the pavement, and may even give rise to differences of opinion among experts in aesthetics, any mistake in the physical layout of the work will inevitably and immediately be detected and result in accidents, or at least in inconvenience and irritation that will mar the impression of the project as a whole. Traffic jams, bodily injuries, or even loss of life, will result from the non-observance of the correct principles of control and road design, many of which have been formulated and thoroughly tested since the time when the Arlington Memorial Bridge project was first begun. To allow myself knowingly to violate the lessons of experience and the principles of correct design would be professionally unethical for me.

On such points I have not acted on my own judgment alone, but have constantly sought the advice of the Consulting Engineer of the Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission and of the Engineers of the United States Bureau of Public Roads. I have raised no contention that has not had the unqualified approval in advance of both these agencies; and finally, I have had these same engineers inspect the

Mr. Moore - Memorial Entrance to Cemetery.

5/12/33.

results, after completion of the field work, and always with their commendation. I might even add that my position with these engineers was on occasions somewhat difficult, as I felt obligated to uphold as far as possible the desires and recommendations of the Architects and of the Commission of Fine Arts, while my advice from these engineering specialists was generally to go farther in emphasizing the purely utilitarian aspects of the problems.

As I look back over the history of the project, I realize that you may have thought me, on several occasions, too insistent upon the introduction of improvements for the facilitation of the safe and easy flow of traffic or other questions of structural design, often against the advice of the Architects; but I feel that in any such project conflicts between appearance and practical needs, including the safety and well-being of the public, must inevitably arise. The Commission of Fine Arts and the Architects would not, by the nature of their functions, be held responsible for any such mistakes or omissions, but I would have great difficulty in acquitting myself, certainly in my own mind, for any accidents, or even undue inconvenience, which would result therefrom.

In your letter of April 24th, you extend your criticism beyond the particular case of the Memorial Entrance pavement, but as your statement is general, I am at a loss to reply. My association with the Commission of Fine Arts since 1910 has been too agreeable and is valued too highly by me, for me to permit a few words written in anger by you to lead me into mutual recriminations which might mar the memory of so much that we have accomplished together. If you will name any "other projects" that I have been connected with, in which I have failed in taking full advantage of the advice of the Fine Arts Commission and of yourself as an individual, I shall try to rectify my omission -- or will explain the practical and engineering reasons which made it impossible to comply in full with your suggestions. I am certainly unable to think of any one thing I have done, or permitted to be done, which was practically avoidable and which is inconsistent with making "Washington a well-ordered, dignified and beautiful capital." In my efforts to do my bit to this end, I have been privileged to enjoy your confidence and advice, and those of the Commission of Fine Arts, and I have enjoyed and taken advantage of this privilege to the utmost. I have felt that you looked upon me as a partner in this work, and I am greatly distressed, now that I am about to leave, to learn from your letter that this is perhaps no longer the case.

In making Washington what you and I both think it should be, there are necessarily different needs which cannot all be fully satisfied. Some conflicts of ideas are obviously inevitable. They

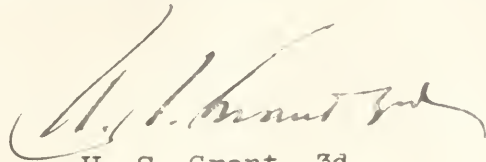
Mr. Moore - Memorial Entrance to Cemetery.

5/12/33.

must be reconciled in each case and the best solutions can only be found by a certain amount of give-and-take. The Fine Arts Commission cannot always be wholly right. There are a few things it has approved which appear to me flagrantly harmful and entirely inconsistent with "a well-ordered, dignified and beautiful capital"; but I know I may be wrong in my estimate of them, and that your patience must often have been tried by my insistence of my own views which have doubtless sometimes appeared unreasonable to you. As between the claims of the practical and aesthetic considerations, does not Vitruvius's statement furnish a good criterion: "Well-building hath three conditions: Commodity, Firmness and Delight"? The first two qualities are entirely utilitarian, and you cannot have the last, delight, without the sense of safety and convenience on which I have insisted for the Bridge project. Bad design of traffic ways, lights, pavements, or other utilitarian elements are incompatible with good architecture.

I am grateful to you for giving me the opportunity to explain the particular matter of the Memorial Entrance pavement, and I should like to take up in detail any other matters you feel I have mishandled. I want you to understand why I have acted as I have, and I want my successor to inherit unimpaired the friendship that has meant so much to me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "U. S. Grant". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "U" and a long, sweeping underline.

U. S. Grant, 3d,
Executive and Disbursing Officer.

COPY

May 29, 1953.

Dear Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 26, 1953, considered the design submitted by you for a gasoline filling station, to be built on the northwest corner of New Jersey Avenue and D Street, N.W., of this city.

After considering the design, the Commission visited the site, and felt that the prominence of the corner, within full view of Union Station Plaza, requires a more substantial building than is indicated in the design. It should be in keeping with either the brick building across D Street or preferably the stone-faced building across New Jersey Avenue.

The Commission will not sanction the cutting of street trees along New Jersey Avenue or D Street to provide entrances to the filling station. The entrance is excessive in width on both streets. They convert a parking area into a business property.

The Commission of Fine Arts request that a new design embodying these suggestions be submitted to the Commission.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Mr. M. Natz Weller,
334 Standard Oil Building,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT H

COPY

June 6, 1953.

Dear Mr. Weller;

The Commission of Fine Arts approve the revised design you submitted today for the Gasoline Service Station, to be built at New Jersey Avenue and D Street, N.W.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Mr. Natz Weller,
Standard Oil Building,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT H-1

May 29, 1933.

Dear Major Gotwals:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 26, 1933, considered the sketch model and several designs submitted in your behalf by Major P. A. Hodgson, Assistant Engineer Commissioner, for the Woodrow Wilson High School, to be built at Fort Reno.

The Commission approved the scheme for grouping the buildings as shown in the model. However, there are several matters that require attention in connection with a further development of the project;

1. A topographic survey should be made showing the location of the trees in the area.
2. The general location of the smoke-stack as shown in the model the Commission regard satisfactory, but it should be brought up next to the building, so as to be less obtrusive.
3. Whether the Auditorium or the Gymnasium should be adjacent to the Fort Drive is a question which the Commission will leave to your determination.
4. A clock tower is needed to pull the group together and create unity. The usefulness of a clock in that area would be great enough to justify saving of expense elsewhere.
5. The Commission wish to give further study to the corridors connecting the buildings.
6. The design showing a sloping roof the Commission regard much preferable to a flat roof.
7. A five foot terrace wall should be built along Nebraska Avenue, as a protection to the Athletic Field and a large saving in maintenance.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Major J. C. Gotwals, Engineer
Commissioner of the District of Columbia,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT I

American Pharmaceutical Association

ORGANIZED 1852

INCORPORATED 1898

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION—1932-1933

W. BRUCE PHILIP
Bldg., Washington, D. C.
President, CHARLES F. HEEBNER
to, Canada
ice-President, ROWLAND JONES
burg, S. Dakota
ice-President, G. H. GROMMET
S. W. 11th St., Miami, Fla.

Secretary, E. F. KELLY
10 W. Chase St., Baltimore, Md.
Treasurer, C. W. HOLTON
Box 81, Essex Fells, N. J.
Editor of the Year Book, A. G. DuMEZ
Lombard and Greene Sts., Baltimore, Md.
Editor of the Journal, E. G. EBERLE
10 W. Chase St., Baltimore, Md.

Chairman of the Council, S. L. HILTON
1033 22nd St., N. W., Washington, D. C.
Vice-Chairman of the Council, CHARLES H. LAWALL
214 S. 12th St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Chairman House of Delegates, J. W. SLOCUM
404 W. Ashland Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.
Vice-Chairman House of Delegates, P. H. COSTELLO
Cooperstown, N. Dakota

Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department Building,
Washington, D. C.

RECEIVED
COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
WASHINGTON, D. C.
JUN 2 1933
NOTED

May 31, 1933

Gentlemen:

Dr. Dunning and I were very pleased to learn, during our conference with the Commission and Colonel Grant on the twenty-sixth, that the grading and planting plans for the grounds of our building have the approval of the Commission. We will request Mr. Pope to arrange for the preparation of the detailed plans and trust that Major Clark will join with Mr. Hubbard in making such suggestions with respect to them as they believe will add to the effect desired by the Commissions and ourselves.

The opportunity to discuss personally and at length with the Commission and with Colonel Grant the question of transfer of property under the provisions of Public Resolution No. 18, has been helpful to us and as requested, we submit the following as representing our views with respect to this question.

The Draft Permit for the care of U. S. Parking Space south of Square 63, between 22nd and 23rd, is acceptable.

The Plot of Transfer, Plan No. 1.8-125, is not satisfactory in so far as the area to be deeded to us is concerned and for the following reasons:

1. The permit for the improvement and care of the U. S. Parking Space, which entirely surrounds our building on the front, is revocable at the will of the Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks and upon revocation, we are required to immediately remove the walks, shrubbery and other improvements therefrom, which would leave us without entry to our building on the front, either from Constitution Avenue, 22nd Street or 23rd Street. It is assumed that the permit will be permanent, as in the case of the National Academy of Sciences; nevertheless, it is revocable at will. Furthermore, the National Academy of Sciences owns property between its building and the parking space in that square so that revocation would not leave

Exhibit

it without entry on the front.

2. Public Resolution No. 18 was not based on any relative transfer as to square footage or on relative values. The area to be transferred to the Association was such as shall be agreed upon by the two Commissions and the Association, so that the location and setting of the Association's building will conform to the plan prepared by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and approved by the National Commission of Fine Arts for the treatment of that area. We believe that there is ample authority under the resolution to transfer to our Association such an area as may be agreed upon.

3. When Lots 4, 5 and 6 in Square 62 were purchased, the Association expected to erect the building on that property with space between it and the building line on the north side of Water Street, and with access to that street. Mr. Pope accepted the invitation to design the building for that space and did so. In the transfer under Public Resolution No. 18 we have expected to be placed in correspondingly the same situation with respect to entry as we originally were before our building was moved forward from the proposed original location. This appears to us as no more than a fair and equitable transaction and we believe that there can be no reasonable criticism of such a basis of transfer in view of the great improvement in this important site brought about through the suggestions of the Commissions and the execution of them by the Association.

In order to make our position clear, may we briefly review the developments in our project.

After consulting with Major Carey H. Brown, representing the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, to whom full information about the Association and its activities was furnished, and having his approval, the Association purchased Lots 4, 5 and 6 and engaged Mr. Pope to design a building for the property. See his letter of December 6, 1928, copy attached.

Before the design was furnished, we received a letter, dated January 16, 1929, inviting us to appear before the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on Tuesday, January 22, 1929. Mr. Pope completed a design which was submitted and approved on that date. See Commission's letter January 24, 1929, copy herewith.

In that letter the Commission submitted the recommendation that we purchase the additional property necessary to control the entire frontage, under the conditions mentioned, in order that Water Street could be closed and our building located in accordance with the views of the Commission. We agreed to undertake the purchase although it involved difficulties and forced upon us a much greater financial burden. See copy

May 31, 1933

of Commission's letter to President Marvin, George Washington University, of February 6, 1929.

In order that there should be no misunderstanding, we submitted to Major Brown the explanatory material that was to be sent to prospective supporters. Attached is copy of his letter of March 6, 1929, and the changes he suggested were made before the material was sent out.

Although the required funds were promptly secured, there followed a long delay in securing the property to the east and west of our site and in securing legislation to close Water Street. It will be recalled that we first supported the general measure to empower the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to close streets no longer required which resulted in a delay of more than a year. When this measure was further delayed we secured, with the cooperation of the Commissions and of the Commissioners of the District, the enactment of Public Resolution No. 18 which was so worded as to permit the location of our building where the Commissions decided it would best fit in with their plans for the area.

Altogether, our efforts to meet the views of the Commissions have cost us something more than one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars for land alone, about fifty thousand dollars for building costs and about four years delay in completing our project.

We appreciate the responsibility and desire of the Commissions to fully protect the interests of the Government as placed in their hands by Public Resolution No. 18. It must be evident however that the Commissions, representing the public, and the Association will benefit by the consolidation of the property, by the closing of Water Street, by the forward location of the building, and by the planting and upkeep of the government property, resulting in a development entirely creditable to the surroundings.

Our needs will be met by the transfer of the bed of Water Street, as suggested, or, if it is preferred to straighten the line, of an approximately equal area which will give us ownership of the land surrounding the building and will provide an entry to the front over our own property, and the issuance of the permit for the planting and care of U. S. Parking Space between our property and Constitution Avenue, as proposed.

May we again express our indebtedness to the Commissions for their helpful suggestions and cooperation in satisfactorily working out our mutual problem.

Very truly yours,

E. F. Kelley
Secretary.

March 12, 1929.

Major Carey H. Brown,
Park and Planning Commission,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Major Brown:-

I am sorry that, through a misunderstanding, an incorrect announcement was made in regard to the care of the land areas which it is expected will be added to the American Pharmacy Institute land, should our plan for obtaining the necessary fund materialize.

There is no harm done, however, because the statement was submitted to a limited few and will be readily corrected.

The changes which you suggest in our propaganda material are entirely acceptable and we shall make the necessary corrections.

You may be assured that the interests which I represent appreciate the co-operation and courtesies which you have extended the Secretary of the American Pharmaceutical Association and myself.

Yours very truly,

NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Eighteenth and B Streets
Washington

March 6, 1929.

Mr. H. A. B. Dunning,
Charles & Chase Streets,
Baltimore, Md.

Subject: Building of the American Pharmacy
Institute on Square 63.

My dear Sir:

I received yesterday a copy of your exhibit regarding the development of the American Pharmacy Institute plan. It is a very interesting and appealing presentation.

I desire, however, to call your attention to certain statements contained therein which should be modified.

In your letter of transmittal going with the exhibit you state near the close of the letter "additional areas of park land cared for at the expense of the Government." In the case of the Academy of Sciences, lying immediately east of your proposed location where Water Street was closed and the park area immediately to the south turned over as a part of the setting of the building (just as proposed in your plan "C"), the planting and care of the ground is the responsibility of the Academy of Sciences. Similarly in the case of the Pan-American Building, the Red Cross Building, and all other semi-public buildings that I know of, the responsibility for care of the grounds lies with the building proprietors. I can not believe that an exception would be made in your case and, therefore, believe that the words "cared for at the expense of the Government" are erroneous. Your statement would be more accurate if these words were deleted and the words "as a setting for the building" were substituted.

Similarly, the last paragraph under the heading "Property", on next to the last page, should be deleted. The fourth paragraph under the heading "Property" should be corrected to bring out the idea that the Government, in the case referred to, would turn the 54,592 square feet over to your control. It would not be a gift but would remain United States property, being, however, under your jurisdiction and control as a part of your grounds making the setting of the building.

Under your description of plot plans in plan "C", it might be better to substitute for the words "handed over to the Association", the words "placed under the control of the Association as a setting for the building."

I trust that you will be able to make these corrections as I fear that your present statements might tend to prejudice your case, while it is my sincere hope that you will be successful in carrying it out along the lines of plan "C", or even better, along the lines of a plan which we might call "C-plus", which would call for your acquisition of the north half of the square as well as the south.

Yours very truly,

CAREY H. BROWN,
Engineer.



THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
Established by Congress May 17, 1910

Charles Moore - Chairman
Lorado Taft Ferruccio Vitale
Abram Garfield Ezra Winter
Benjamin W. Morris John W. Cross
H. P. Caemmerer - Secretary

Interior Department Building
Washington

January 24, 1929.

Dear Dr. Dunning:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on January 22, 1929, were much pleased to consider the building project of the American Pharmaceutical Association, in the National Capital, as presented by you and Dr. E. F. Kelly, Secretary of your Association. The Commission noted you have acquired a

The question is as to the first importance that the Sciences building in the adjacent side and at the front this will necessitate your have already raised for the emplacement on the east and

The necessary land to street; the remainder as a secure the east and west land Street in front of your square your grounds, with the provis

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-3-

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Interior Department Building
Washington

January 24, 1929.

Dear Dr. Dunning:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on January 22, 1929, were much pleased to consider the building project of the American Pharmaceutical Association, in the National Capital, as presented by you and Dr. E. F. Kelly, Secretary of your Association. The Commission noted you have acquired a portion of the square between 22d and 23d Streets, along B Street, N.W., west of the National Academy of Sciences, where your building will have a commanding position virtually opposite the Lincoln Memorial and adjacent to the Arlington Memorial Bridge. The visitors to the Lincoln Memorial are numbering over one million a year; and your building will be the first one seen from the Arlington Memorial Bridge of the monumental buildings which will extend along B Street from the Potomac River to the United States Capitol.

The Commission of Fine Arts have been solicitous as to a building at this location which would be a portion of the frame of the Lincoln Memorial, both enhancing that building and in turn being enhanced by it. Thus it would naturally fall into the plan of development for B Street.

The design of the building itself, prepared by Mr. John Russell Pope, conforms to the ideals of this Commission in all respects. The Commission therefore approve the design which you submitted.



The question is as to the location of the building on the plot. It is of the first importance that the front of your building shall line with that of the Sciences building in the adjoining square; and that you have sufficient land on either side and at the front of your building. The Commission understand that this will necessitate your raising a considerable sum in addition to what you have already raised for the purchase of the land necessary to secure a suitable emplacement on the east and west.

The necessary land to the south is owned by the Government - a portion as a street; the remainder as a reservation. This Commission is prepared, in case you secure the east and west lands, to recommend to Congress that the portion of Water Street in front of your square be vacated, and that the reservation be included in your grounds, with the proviso that this land shall not be built upon, but shall be treated as the land in front of the National Academy of Sciences building is now treated. This would give you without cost a greater area than you would be called on to purchase. We trust that you will be able to cooperate with this Commission to bring about a result so important, and even so imperative.

The Commission of Fine Arts will be pleased to assist you in your efforts in any way possible.

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore, Chairman.

Dr. H. A. B. Dunning, Chairman,
Committee on Headquarters Building,
American Pharmaceutical Association,
Charles and Chase Streets,
Baltimore, Md.

C O P Y

Office of
JOHN RUSSELL POPE
Architect
542 Fifth Avenue, New York

John Russell Pope
Daniel P. Higgins
Otto R. Eggers

December 6, 1928.

Mr. H. A. B. Dunning,
Charles & Chase Streets,
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter regarding the Institute of Pharmacy received. I am most enthusiastic and interested.

For years I have been in contact with the big Washington architectural plan both as a member of the Federal Fine Arts Commission, and as the Architect for the proposed Roosevelt Memorial that would complete the big park conception, of which the Lincoln Memorial is such an important element. I have also executed many buildings there and am thoroughly familiar with National Academy of Sciences, having been on the Fine Arts Commission at the time they passed upon it.

I think the situation you have selected for your building is a most ideal one both as to physical location and as to surrounding associations. You have done well.

You may count on my whole hearted desire to be of every help in any direction you may think I can be of service. Unfortunately, I have just returned from Baltimore and a business trip to find myself so booked up with appointments and obligations that I am not free to come to Baltimore for about a week or ten days, and I am suggesting if you think well of it that one of my associates in whom I have great confidence call upon you that I may obtain as much information as is possible before my personal visit.

I am glad you have come in contact with the Museum. I have great hopes for it when its collar and necktie are adjusted. The Museum Committee, particularly Mr. Randall and Dr. Jacobs, are in a position to give you information as to how this office is in the habit of handling our work.

Trusting to hear from you shortly, I am

Most interestedly yours truly,

(Signed) John Russell Pope.

JRP:TK

COPY
The Commission of Fine Arts
Washington, D.C.

June 2, 1953.

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 26, 1953, approved the preliminary planting and grading plans received from the Office of John Russell Pope, architect, for the grounds of the American Pharmaceutical Association Building, which you submitted with your letter of May 10th. Major Clarke, Landscape Architect member of the Commission suggested planting large trees behind the building, which ultimately would screen out any structures that are erected to the north in the future. This suggestion will be embodied by Mr. Brinckerhoff, Landscape Architect, in the final plans. It is noted that the plans have the approval of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

During the day the Commission of Fine Arts discussed these plans with Dr. H. A. B. Dunning, representing the Building Committee, and Dr. E. F. Kelly, Secretary, of the American Pharmaceutical Association, and also with you. In the matter of the transfer of lands as authorized by Congress, the Commission of Fine Arts advise that in return for

First. The transfer of land by the American Pharmaceutical Association to the United States for the proposed widening of Twenty-third Street to make a suitable approach to the Lincoln Memorial

Second. The requirement that the American Pharmaceutical Association purchase the entire frontage between Twenty-second and Twenty-third Streets, thereby creating an adequate landscape setting for their building, primarily as a benefit to the setting for the Lincoln Memorial

Third. The requirement that the American Pharmaceutical Association build of white marble, at an increased expense over that contemplated when their site was purchased.

Fourth. The maintenance of Reservation No. 332 B.

that there be exchanged the fee simple title to the area of abandoned Upper Water Street or such equivalent land on the south side of their building as shall ensure to the American Pharmaceutical Association adequate access from Twenty-second and Twenty-third Streets to their building.

A copy of correspondence from Dr. Kelly on the subject, together with Transfer Plat, and draft of agreement submitted by you and as amended by the Commission of Fine Arts, are enclosed.

The grounds of the American Pharmaceutical Association and the National Academy of Sciences are adjacent to each other. Each of them has met the requirements of the Commission of Fine Arts as to erecting a building with landscape setting as a portion of the frame to the Lincoln Memorial. Both have met every requirement as to location of their buildings and the landscape treatment. The results are highly and mutually satisfactory to the Government and the Associations. The transfers of land therefore should be accomplished in the same spirit as has prevailed throughout the negotiations.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d,
Executive and Disbursing Officer,
National Capital Park and Planning Commission,
Washington, D.C.

Chairman.

EXHIBIT K

DRAFT PERMIT - AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

WHEREAS, by Section 2 of an Act of Congress approved July 1, 1898 (30 Stats., page 570), as amended by Act approved April 14, 1906 (34 Stats. Pt. 1, pp. 112, 113), the Chief of Engineers (Director of Public Buildings & Public Parks of the National Capital) is authorized temporarily to turn over the care of certain parking spaces in the District of Columbia to private owners of adjoining lands under such regulations as he may prescribe, and with the condition that the said private owners shall pay special assessments for improvements contiguous to such parking, under the same regulations as are or may be prescribed for private lands; *Reservation No. 332 B*

NOW, THEREFORE, This is to certify that the care of the United States parking space adjoining the south side of Square 63, and located between 22nd and 23rd Streets and Constitution Avenue, Northwest, in the District of Columbia, and shown in green on the map of the locality attached to this instrument, and made a part hereof, is hereby temporarily turned over to the American Pharmaceutical Association, the owner of adjoining lands in Square 63, under the provisions of the Act of Congress mentioned subject to the following regulations in addition to the condition contained in the said Act of July 1, 1898:

Reservation No. 332 B

1. That the said American Pharmaceutical Association is hereby granted permission to temporarily improve the said parking space with walks and shrubbery, and to construct a formal approach to its building over the said space all as shown on the map; and the said American Pharmaceutical Association shall at all times maintain the ground in a neat and creditable condition, to the satisfaction of the said Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks.

2. That the privileges herein granted are revocable at will by the Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks, and whenever notified by the said Director, or his authorized representative, the said American Pharmaceutical Association shall immediately remove the walks, shrubbery and other improvements from the said parking space and put it in as good condition for use by the United States as it is at this date.

At present building site in

3. That if the American Pharmaceutical Association at any time ceases to be the owner and occupant of the said Square numbered 63, the privileges herein granted shall automatically terminate.

WITNESS my hand this _____ day of _____, 1933.

Director; Public Buildings & Public Parks
of the National Capital.

The care of the U. S. parking space south of Square 63 and located between 22nd and 23rd Streets and Constitution Avenue, Northwest, is hereby accepted subject to above regulations and to the conditions contained in the Act of July 1, 1898.

Dated at Washington, D. C., this _____ day of _____, 1933.

American Pharmaceutical Association

BY:

Owner and occupant in Square 63,
Washington, D.C.

Witness.

COPY

May 29, 1933.

Dear Mr. Robert:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 26, 1933, were pleased to inspect revised studies submitted by Mr. Louis A. Simon, Office of the Supervising Architect, in your behalf, for the proposed bridges across B Street South, to connect the Agricultural Department Buildings.

The Commission expressed its preference for Sketch No.1 for the lower portion of the structure, and sketches No.3 and No.4 for the upper portion. The Commission recommend that a design be made embodying these sketches.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

(SIGNED) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Hon. N. W. Robert Jr.,
Assistant Secretary of the Treasury,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT L

COPY

June 5, 1933.

Dear Col. Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on May 26, 1933, considered your suggestion to have the cornice of the White House repaired.

The Commission concurs in your recommendation that Indiana Limestone be used in repairing the cornice. It is understood that the stone will be painted white in harmony with other portions of the White House.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d, Director,
Public Buildings and Public Parks
of the National Capital,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT M

COPY

June 8, 1933.

Dear Colonel Grant:

When the members of the Commission of Fine Arts parted from you at the end of their meeting on May 26 last, we felt that while the official relations might be broken off, the happy personal relations that have grown up during more than seven years will continue. The members hope that they still may have the benefit of your intimate acquaintance with the problems in the District of Columbia and your sound judgment gained by long experience.

Particularly the members of the Commission are relying on your continued support in the promotion of the ideal established by Presidents Washington and Jefferson---that first of all the City of Washington is the capital of the United States. They held that temporary or inadequate expedients never should be allowed to interfere with that fundamental concept.

The members of this Commission have realized that you have ever been inspired by the example of President Grant, your grand-father, who gave undeviating support to the successful efforts to lift this city into its destined place among the cities of the country. And we are sensible too of the influence exerted through you by Senator Elihu Root, whose keen appreciation of the Plan of 1901 and his steadfast, wise and sagacious support of that plan have been vital elements in promoting the execution of it.

Your work as the executive and ours as advisors have found common ground. Both you and we have endeavored to carry on the great tradition in so far as was in our power to do so. That is our permanent satisfaction.

No matter what other duties come to you, your voice and your influence will always have large influence in carrying on the great work. So while we regret the severance of official relations, we shall confidently rely on a continuance of personal association in so far as your opportunities and inclinations permit.

For the members of the Commission of Fine Arts:

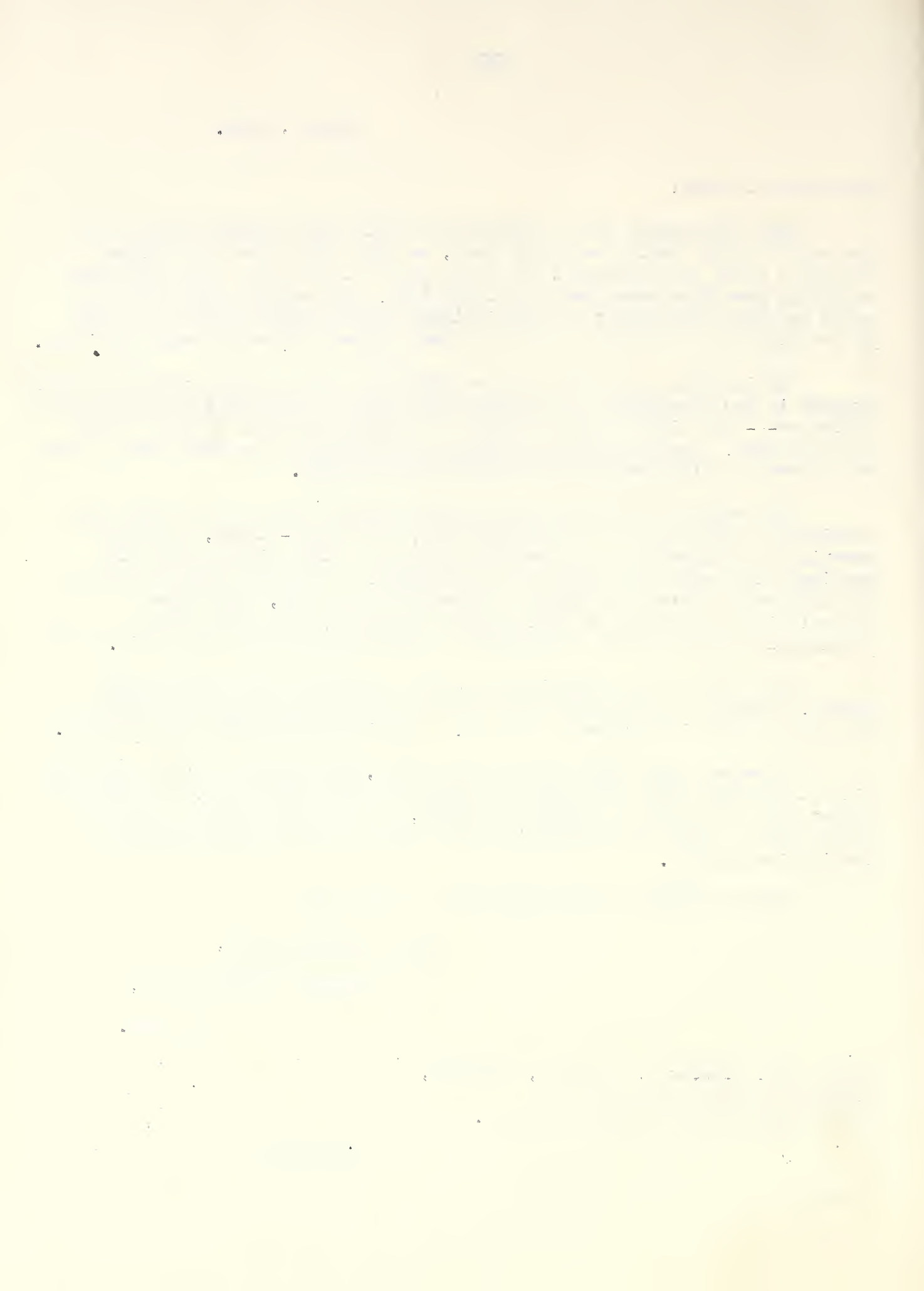
Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. Ulysses S. Grant 5d, Director,
Office of Public Buildings and
Public Parks of the National Capital.

EXHIBIT N



JULY

June 5, 1933.

Dear Mr. Albright:

The members of the Commission of Fine Arts, together with Representative Cochran, of Pennsylvania, made a pleasant visit to Williamsburg on May 27th, and through the courtesy of the National Park Service engineers were over a portion of the highway planned to connect Yorktown and Williamsburg. They were both interested and appreciative of the large and comprehensive nature of the work as planned and they will be interested in the completion of the connection with Jamestown Island. Mr. Robinson talked very interestingly about a third route that he had in mind and the reasons therefor. Historically it will be a very good thing to take in Green Spring, the old seat of Governor Berkeley, which is one of the great historic features of Colonial Virginia. I trust that this fact will be given due consideration.

Major Clarke has sent you a Memorandum in regard to certain matters relating to the landscape development along the Highway. I am quite sure that Major Clarke's observations will commend themselves to your good sense.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Cordially yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Horace Albright, Director,
National Park Service,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D.C.

CHIEF 0-1

June 1, 1933.

Memorandum concerning the development of portion of the Colonial Monument Parkway between Yorktown and Williamsburg.

- - - - -

The Commission of Fine Arts visited Yorktown and Williamsburg on Saturday, May 27th. We were privileged to motor over the incompletd Colonial Monument Parkway, a portion of which has been constructed between Yorktown and Williamsburg. My impressions of the work were obtained in a very hurried trip, and a large portion of the project was viewed going in one direction only.

I was impressed with the fact that the alignment and profile is pleasing. The grading of the side slopes has not been accomplished in as satisfactory a manner as should be. Many of the slopes are too steep, and it appears as though too much attention had been given to the preservation of unimportant trees. Between the driveway and the river, there are a number of "hogbacks", which have been allowed to remain, and which obstruct the view of the York River. These "hogbacks", in my opinion, should be removed and graded approximately as I have indicated in a typical section shown at the bottom of this memorandum. I expect that they were left to preserve the tree growth, but the large majority of trees are of little or no consequence, and it would be far more satisfactory in the long run to grade out these side slopes, so as to obtain the river view rather than to retain the grading as it is, which will always appear to be artificial and which, to me, is exceedingly unpleasant. In a very few years, trees can be grown on the newly graded slopes, and they will then be in suitable locations. The river had best be viewed through the boles of trees with an occasional open space for unobstructed views. These unobstructed glimpses of the river can be obtained where hydraulic fills were made.

The concrete bridges seem to be satisfactory since they are not viewed to any great degree from the driveway. I was disappointed, however, in the railing on one bridge which has been completed. It seems to me that this should have been made of wood, rather than of concrete poured to conform to a structural form simulating wood. In using concrete, I think that it should be made to appear like concrete and not made to take the form of some material which it never can be. It seems to me that the railings for these concrete bridges had very much better be made of wood, rather than to attempt to stain concrete to make it look like wood, and as a matter of fact, it never will. A wooden railing can still be erected on the bridge now under construction, and I think it would be much more satisfactory to do so if possible.

June 1, 1933.

I did not get out of the car, so that I was unable to view the other structures, including the brick bridge at the Mine Depot. My impression in driving over was that the wingwalls were a little short, making the slopes between driveway and the springing line of the arch possibly too steep. However, I may have received a wrong impression of this.

GDC:MVL

Gilmore D. Clarke
GILMORE D. CLARKE.

*Suggest
Cutting the
down*



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

RECEIVED
THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
WASHINGTON, D. C.
MAY 31 1933
NOTED

May 20, 1933.

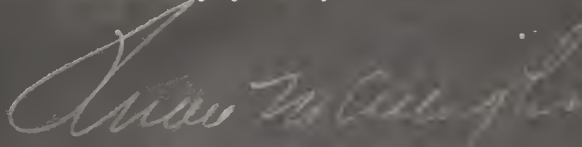
Dr. Charles Moore,
Chairman, The Commission of Fine Arts,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Doctor Moore:

Some time when it is convenient for your Commission to do so, I would appreciate their inspecting the work we are doing, including plans for development, on the proposed parkway between and to connect Yorktown, Williamsburg and Jamestown, also including the development and planning work at Yorktown, and giving me the benefit of any criticism or advices that might occur to them individually or collectively.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,



Director.



